

### 2.1.4 UTILITIES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

This section discusses the utilities and emergency services related to the project site and general vicinity, and analyzes issues such as relocation of utilities within the project area and access for emergency vehicles through the project site during construction.

#### REGULATORY SETTING

##### Local

##### City of Elk Grove

The City of Elk Grove General Plan identifies several policies that relate to utilities and emergency services within the City, as they relate to the proposed project:

- **PF-1:** Except when prohibited by state law, the City shall require that sufficient capacity in all public services and facilities will be available on time to maintain desired service levels and avoid capacity shortages, traffic congestion, or other negative effects on safety and quality of life.
- **PF-2:** The City shall coordinate with outside service agencies – including water and sewer providers, the Elk Grove Community Services District, and the Elk Grove Unified School District – during the review of plans and development projects.
- **PF-7:** The City shall require that water flow and pressure be provided at sufficient levels to meet domestic, commercial, industrial, and firefighting needs.
- **PF-26:** To minimize damage to roadways and to reduce inconvenience to residents and businesses, the City shall seek to ensure that all utilities located in roadways are installed in a single operation. Multiple installations in which separate utilities are installed at different times and/or in different trenches, are specifically discouraged.

##### City of Sacramento

The City of Sacramento General Plan does not identify specific policies that relate to utilities and emergency services with the City, as they relate to the proposed project.

#### AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT - UTILITIES

Utilities for the project area would be provided by several service providers. Upon completion, the project site would need to be supplied with electricity to power street and traffic lights, which would be provided by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). In the project area, water services are provided by the Elk Grove Water Service Retail/SCWA Wholesale Services and the City of Sacramento; sewer services are provided by Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD); natural gas is provided by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E); telephone services are provided by Frontier Communications; cable television is provided by Comcast Cable; and solid waste services are provided by Central Valley Waste Services. The

City of Elk Grove and the City of Sacramento maintain storm drainage facilities in their respective areas within the project area.

### UTILITY IMPACTS

#### **No Build Alternative**

Under the No Build alternative, existing utilities that currently utilize the overcrossing to facilitate their routing would not require relocation.

#### **Build Alternatives (2A and 3A) Impacts**

Under both build alternatives (2A and 3A), any existing utility infrastructure, such as water pipes, telephone lines, etc., that currently utilize the overcrossing to facilitate their routing could be subject to relocation, either on the new overcrossing, or elsewhere in or near the project area. Additionally, the realignment of E. Stockton Blvd. or W. Stockton Blvd. could result in utility relocations. Thirty-centimeter (12 in.) and 40.6 cm (16 in.) water transmission mains lay under the existing alignment of East Stockton Boulevard. As part of the new alignment of East Stockton Boulevard (under both alternatives), the Elk Grove Water Service Retail/SCWA Wholesale Services would need to relocate the water mains to match the new road alignment. The realignment could potentially temporarily disrupt water service to customers. The relocation of utilities could potentially result in the temporary disruption of service to customers within or surrounding the project area.

The City of Elk Grove General Plan Policies PF-2 and PF-7, require the City of Elk Grove to coordinate with utility providers during project planning and construction, and would be applied throughout the entire project area to insure no disruption to water service during project construction. Additionally, several other existing utilities, such as telephone, cable, and electric lines, could be relocated in order to accommodate the project. The City of Elk Grove General Plan Policies PF-2 and PF-7, requiring the City of Elk Grove to coordinate with utility providers during project planning and construction, are in place and would be applied throughout the entire project area to minimize and manage all disruptions to utility services.

### CEQA FINDING

Under CEQA, the proposed project would result in substantial impacts to utilities if it would result in:

- The disruption of utility services to customers within or surrounding the project area, (i.e., disruption of water, sewer, electric, gas, or telephone services).

All utility relocations will be coordinated with the utility providers to ensure that any disruption of service is temporary and that those directly affected by disruptions in service are notified in advance. This coordinate will ensure that any relocated utilities will have a **less than significant impact**.

## 2.1 HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

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### AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT - EMERGENCY SERVICES

Several service providers are responsible for emergency services in the project area and its surrounding areas. Police protection in the City of Elk Grove is provided by the Elk Grove Police Department. Police protection in the City of Sacramento is provided by the Sacramento Police Department. Fire protection services for the City of Elk Grove are provided by the Elk Grove Community Services District (EGCSD), and fire protection services for the City of Sacramento are provided by the City of Sacramento Fire Department.

### EMERGENCY SERVICES IMPACTS

#### No Build Alternative

The No Build alternative could ultimately result in negative impacts to emergency services within and surrounding the project area. Under current conditions, the Sheldon Road/SR 99 interchange is a “bottle-neck” for traffic moving through the area. Certain intersections within the interchange currently operate at unacceptable LOS, resulting in traffic queuing (see Traffic and Transportation section 2.1.5). Due to planned and expected growth in the surrounding area, traffic through the project area is expected to increase over the next 20 years, thus worsening an already unacceptable LOS through the interchange. Worsening levels of service, and the resulting traffic queuing and congestion have the potential to obstruct or delay emergency vehicles traveling through the project area.

#### Build Alternatives (2A and 3A) Impacts

As part of the realignment of East Stockton Boulevard, two water supply mains must be relocated (see description above). These water mains supply water for fire suppression purposes in the area. The relocation of these mains has the potential to disrupt water service, and, therefore, water supplies for fire suppression in the area.

As discussed in the utilities section, the City of Elk Grove General Plan Policies PF-2 and PF-7 are in place and will be applied throughout the project area to insure less than substantial impacts to water service for fire suppression within and surrounding the project area.

**Impact 2.1.4-1** Construction activities associated with the implementation of the project have the potential to obstruct or delay emergency vehicle access through the project area. If emergency vehicles cannot pass through the construction area, or if the construction activities result in a substantial delay in emergency vehicles passing through the construction area, residents and property in the area could be substantially impacted.

### MITIGATION MEASURES

**MM 2.1.4-1a** During construction, one lane of the Sheldon Road/SR 99 overcrossing shall be kept open at all times to maintain emergency vehicle access through the area. At no time during the construction period will the entire width of the overcrossing be closed to emergency vehicle traffic.

**MM 2.1.4-1b**

Prior to the start of construction, a Traffic Management Plan shall be developed that would reduce delays and obstructions caused by construction detours to the greatest extent possible. The Plan developers shall coordinate with emergency service providers (i.e., fire and police) during plan development to insure that traffic control measures proposed in the plan would meet the needs of the service providers. These detours shall be provided to all emergency service entities prior to their implementation, to avoid impacts to emergency response times.

CEQA FINDING

Disruption of emergency services is a **potentially significant impact** that would be addressed through implementation of mitigation measures 2.1.4-1a and 2.1.4-1b to reduce the potential harm to a **less than significant impact**.